

Dear Colleague,

In June 2016, OBSSR again will celebrate the enduring influence of Matilda White Riley on NIH. This year **OBSSR has expanded this event** to reflect Dr. White Riley's research trajectory and legacy to include a keynote address, discussion panels, and career development sessions.

OBSSR invites you to **nominate outstanding social-behavioral scientists to provide the keynote address** at,

The 9th NIH/Matilda White Riley event

Monday, June 27, 2016 (tentative)

At a Washington, DC area location TBD

The person you nominate should have a research career that has advanced behavioral and social scientific knowledge in areas within NIH's mission and Dr. White Riley's vision including,

- An expanded conceptualization of *health and wellbeing* that includes effective cognitive, affective and social functioning; and quality of life
- Behavioral and social sciences research results that improve the lives of people and society
- Illuminate the complex and dynamic interplay among processes at multiple levels (e.g. interactions between genes and the built, natural, and social environment)
- Influence of social and behavioral factors on physical health and the utility of this knowledge for clinical practice and health policy
- Lifecourse perspectives on development, health, and wellbeing of individuals and societies
- Research approaches that build theory and methods in the advancement of knowledge on health and wellbeing.

Nominees need not have NIH funding; however, the MWR Selection Committee is expressly interested in researchers whose findings have implications for Big Data, Precision Medicine, and e/m-Health. Nomination packages should include,

- Nominee's full contact information, including webpage(s)
- Nominee's CV and/or NIH biosketch.
- A one-page statement demonstrating how the nominee's research results and practice corresponds with Dr. White Riley's vision.

Send complete nomination packages by COB March 31, 2016 to OBSSR's Erica Spotts, spottse@mail.nih.gov.

Sincerely,

The NIH/Matilda White Riley Lecture Selection Committee

Rebecca L. Clark (NICHD)

David Chambers (NCI)

Bill Elwood (OBSSR)

Isabel Estrada Portales (OBSSR)

William Klein (NCI)

Lisa Onken (NIA)

Erica L. Spotts, Chair (OBSSR)

Matilda White Riley: A brief biography

Dr. White Riley (1911-2004) was a member of the National Academies of Science who built a research career reflected in her frequent quotation, "People don't grow up and grow old in laboratories. They grow up and grow old in changing societies." At age 20, Matilda saw her first book published, *Gliding and soaring: An introduction to motorless flight*. She was a Harvard research assistant, established the Market Research Company of America, and held professorships at Rutgers University and Bowdoin College. With her life-and-research partner Jack, Dr. White Riley posited a communication model that demonstrates the reciprocal influences of interpersonal and mediated communication on individuals and how that facilitates social systems. Dr. White Riley came to NIH as a strong and influential advocate for social and behavioral scientific approaches to health research issues. She was the National Institute on Aging's Associate Director for Behavioral and Social Research. In addition, she served as a senior NIH spokeswoman on the behavioral and social sciences, encouraged coordination among NIH Institutes, oversaw the production of reports to Congress, and advised several NIH Directors. Dr. White Riley initiated NIH's Behavioral and Social Sciences Lecture series and built the infrastructure for what became the NIH Director's Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research.